



PUBLIC NOTICE

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Cellular SIDs Administration To Be Privatized Effective October 1, 2003

The FCC will turn over the function of administering 800 MHz Cellular System Identification Numbers (SIDs)¹ to private industry on October 1, 2003. As part of this transition, the SID will no longer be a component of the cellular license.² Since September 2002, the Commercial Wireless Division of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (Bureau) has worked towards privatizing cellular SIDs administration and has since recognized six organizations to perform this very important service for the cellular industry.³

General Overview of the New SIDs Administration Process.

- 800 MHz cellular licensees requesting a new SID assignment or an additional SID assignment must do so by submitting a request to one of the six recognized SID Administrators.
- A licensee requesting to use a SID assigned to another licensee must provide a letter from the authorized SID user concurring with the shared-use request.
- If a licensee requests a new SID assignment, and this new assignment makes the total number of SIDs assigned to the license greater than three (3), the licensee must submit justification for the additional SID.
- Licensees that cease using an assigned SID should notify one of the administrators so that the SID database can be updated accordingly.

Additional Information.

In the near future, the SID Administrators will be listed on the Bureau's web site at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/cellular/licensing/sids.html> and will include a hyperlink to each

¹ SIDs are numeric identifiers used by cellular systems to identify the home system of a cellular telephone and by the cellular telephone to determine their roaming status.

² See Year 2000 Biennial Regulatory Review – Amendment of Part 22 of the Commission's Rules to Modify or Eliminate Outdated Rules Affecting the Cellular Radiotelephone Service and other Commercial Mobile Radio Services, WT Docket No. 01-108, *Report and Order*, FCC 02-229 (rel. Sept. 24, 2002). The *Report and Order* eliminates section 22.941 of the Commission rules, 47 C.F.R. § 22.941, regarding the use of SIDs and the SIDs assignment process, in its entirety.

³ See Six Organizations Will Assume Responsibility for Cellular SID Administration, *Public Notice*, DA 03-2359 (rel. July 21, 2003.)

administrator's web site. The Bureau's web site will also include the Public Notices released during the process of privatizing the SIDs administration function, the *Guidelines for Cellular SID Administrators* (Guidelines), the *Memorandum of Understanding* signed by the administrators, and more! Cellular licensees are encouraged to visit the Bureau's web site and to review the *Guidelines* so they are knowledgeable about the new administration process. The *Guidelines* will be posted prior to the transition. Licensees are also encouraged to visit the web sites of each SID Administrator to learn about the services being offered. The administrators should have their SID web site available by October 1. Attachment A provides information on each recognized administrator.

SIDs are a finite resource and must be carefully managed. Cellular licensees are encouraged to verify their SID assignment(s) using the cellular license spreadsheet at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/cellular/licensing/sids.html>. Any discrepancies in SID information should be reported to one of the SID Administrators; including instances when a SID has been assigned but is not currently being used.

After September 30, 2003, SID information will no longer be reflected on the authorization or in the license record in the Universal Licensing System (ULS). SID information as of September 30, 2003 will be available via the ULS archive database at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls> and in an excel spreadsheet at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/cellular/licensing/sids.html>. **It is important to note that the FCC will not maintain a current database of SID assignments after September 30, 2003; this information will only be available through the new SID Administrators.**

For additional information, contact Denise Walter of the Commercial Wireless Division at denise.walter@fcc.gov or 202-418-0620.

ATTACHMENT A

Cellular SID Administrators Effective October 1, 2003

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